

MEM

- Melting* into tears, the pious man
Deplor'd to find a fight.
3. To be dissolved; to lose substance. *Dryden.*
Whether are they vanish'd?
Into the air: and what seem'd corporal
Melted as breath into the wind. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Beauty is a witch,
Against whose charms faith melteth into blood. *Shakespeare.*
4. To be subdued by affliction.
My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me. *Psal.*
MELTER. *n. f.* [from *melt*.] One that melts metals.
Miso and Mopla, like a couple of foreswat melters, were
getting the pure silver of their bodies out of the ore of their
garments. *Sidney, b. ii.*
This the author attributes to the remissness of the former
melters, in not exhausting the ore. *Derham's Physico-Theol.*
MELTINGLY. *adv.* [from *melting*.] Like something melting.
Zelman lay upon a bank, with her face so bent over Ladon,
that her tears falling into the water, one might have
thought the began meltingly to be metamorphosed to the running river. *Sidney, b. ii.*
MELTVEL. *n. f.* A kind of fish. *Ainsl.*
MEMBER. *n. f.* [*membre*, French; *membrum*, Latin.]
1. A limb; a part appendant to the body.
The tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. *Jam. iii. 5.*
2. A part of a discourse or period; a head; a clause.
Where the respondent limits or distinguishes any proposition,
the opponent must prove his own proposition according to that member of the distinction in which the respondent denied it. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
3. Any part of an integral.
In poetry as in architecture, not only the whole but the principal members, and every part of them, should be great. *Addison's Spectr. N. 267.*
4. One of a community.
My going to demand justice upon the five members, my enemies loaded with obloquies. *King Charles.*
Mean as I am, yet have the Muses made
Me free, a member of the tuneful trade. *Dryden.*
Sienna is adorned with many towers of brick, which, in the time of the commonwealth, were erected to such of the members as had done any considerable service to their country. *Addison on Italy.*
MEMBRANE. *n. f.* [*membrane*, Fr. *membrana*, Latin.]
A membrane is a web of several sorts of fibres, interwoven together for the covering and wrapping up some parts: the fibres of the membranes give them an elasticity, whereby they can contract, and closely grasp, the parts they contain, and their nervous fibres give them an exquisite sense, which is the cause of their contraction; they can, therefore, scarcely suffer the sharpness of medicines, and are difficultly united when wounded. *Quincy.*
The chorion, a thick membrane obscuring the formation, the dam doth after tear asunder. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
They obstacle find none
Of membrane, joint, or limb, exclusive bars:
Easier than air with air, if spirits embrace,
Total they mix. *Milton.*
The inner membrane that involved the several liquors of the egg remained unbroken. *Boyle.*
MEMBRANACEOUS. *adj.* [*membraneux*, Fr. from *membrana*, Lat.] Consisting of membranes.
Lute-strings, which are made of the membranous parts of the guts strongly wreathed, swell so much as to break in wet weather. *Boyle.*
Great conceits are raised of the involution or membranous covering called the filly-hov. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
Such birds as are carnivorous have no gizzard, or muscular, but a membranous stomach; that kind of food being torn into small flakes by the beak, may be easily concocted by a membranous stomach. *Ray on Creation.*
Anodyne substances, which take off contractions of the membranous parts, are diuretick. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
Birds of prey have membranaceous, not muscular stomachs. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
MEMENTO. *n. f.* [Latin.] A memorial notice; a hint to awaken the memory.
Our gracious master, for his learning and piety, is not only a precedent to his own subjects, but to foreign princes; yet he is still but a man, and seasonable memento's may be useful. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*
Is not the frequent spectacle of other peoples deaths a memento sufficient to make you think of your own? *L'Estrange.*
MEMOIR. *n. f.* [*memoire*, French.]
1. An account of transactions familiarly written.
Be our great master's future charge
To write his own memoirs, and leave his heirs
High schemes of government and plans of wars. *Prior.*
2. Hint; notice; account of any thing.

MEM

- There is not in any author a computation of the revenues of the Roman empire, and hardly any memoirs from whence it might be collected. *Arbutnot on Coins.*
MEMORABLE. *adj.* [*memorable*, Fr. *memorabilis*, Lat.] Worthy of memory; not to be forgotten.
Nothing I so much delight to recount, as the memorable friendship that grew betwixt the two princes.
From this desire, that main desire proceeds,
Which all men have surviving fame to gain,
By tombs, by books, by memorable deeds,
For the that this desires doth still remain.
Dares Ulysses for the prize contend,
In sight of what he durst not once defend;
But basely fled that memorable day,
When I from Hector's hands redeem'd the flaming prey. *Dryden's Ovid.*
MEMORABLY. *adv.* [from *memorable*.] In a manner worthy of memory.
I resolved to new pave every street within the liberties, and entered a memorandum in my pocket-book accordingly. *Guardian, N^o. 166.*
Nature's fair table-book, our tender souls,
We scrawl all o'er with old and empty rules,
Stale memorandums of the schools. *Swift's Miscel.*
MEMORIAL. *adj.* [*memorial*, Fr. *memorialis*, Latin.]
1. Prefervative of memory.
Thy master now lies thinking in his bed
Of thee and me, and sighs, and takes my glove,
And gives memorial dainty kisses to it. *Shakespeare.*
May I, at the conclusion of a work, which is a kind of monument of Pope's partiality to me, place the following lines as an inscription memorial of it. *Broom.*
The tomb with many arms and trophies raise;
There high in air memorial of my name
Fix the smooth oar, and bid me live to fame. *Pope.*
2. Contained in memory.
The case is the same with the memorial possessions of the greatest part of mankind: a few useful things mixed with many trifles fill up their memories. *Watts.*
MEMORIAL. *n. f.*
1. A monument; something to preserve memory.
All churches have had their names; some as memorials of peace, some of wisdom, some in memory of the trinity itself, some of Christ underundry titles; of the blessed Virgin not a few; many of one apostle, faint, or martyr; many of all. *Hooker.*
A memorial unto Israel, that no stranger offer incense before the Lord. *Nam. xvi. 43.*
All the laws of this kingdom have some monuments or memorials thereof in writing, yet all of them have not their original in writing; for some of those laws have obtained their force by immemorial usage. *Hale.*
In other parts like deeds deserv'd
Memorial, where the might of Gabriel fought. *Milton.*
Reflect upon a clear, unblotted, acquitting conscience, and feed upon the ineffable comforts of the memorial of a conquered temptation. *South's Sermon.*
Medals are so many monuments consigned over to eternity, that may last when all other memorials of the same age are worn out or lost. *Addison on ancient Medals.*
2. Hint to assist the memory.
He was a prince sad, serious, and full of thoughts and secret observations, and full of notes and memorials of his own hand touching persons. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
Memorials written with king Edward's hand shall be the ground of this history. *Heyward.*
MEMORIALIST. *n. f.* [from *memorial*.] One who writes memorials.
I must not omit a memorial setting forth, that the memorialist had, with great dispatch, carried a letter from a certain lord to a certain lord. *Spectator, N^o. 629.*
MEMORIZE. *v. a.* [from *memory*.] To record; to commit to memory by writing.
They neglect to memorize their conquest of the Indians, especially in those times in which the fame was supported. *Spenser on Ireland.*
Let their names that were bravely lost be rather memorialized in the full table of time; for my part, I love no ambitious pains in an eloquent description of miseries. *Watson.*
MEMORY. *n. f.* [*memoire*, Fr. *memoria*, Latin.]
1. The power of retaining or recollecting things past; retention; remembrance; recollection.
Memory is the power to revive again in our minds those ideas which after imprinting have disappeared, or have been laid aside out of sight. *Locke.*
The memory is perpetually looking back, when we have nothing present to entertain us: it is like those repositories in animals that are filled with stores of food, on which they may ruminate, when their present pasture fails. *Addison's Spectator.*
2. Exemption

MEN

2. Exemption from oblivion.
That ever-living man of memory, *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*
Henry the Fifth!
3. Time of knowledge.
Thy request think now fulfill'd, that ask'd
How first this world, and face of things, began,
And what, before thy memory, was done. *Milton.*
4. Memorial; monumental record.
Be better suited;
These weeds are memories of those worse hours:
I prithee put them off. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
A swan in memory of Cynus shines;
The mourning sisters weep in wat'ry signs. *Addison.*
5. Reflection; attention. Not in use.
When Duncan is asleep, his two chamberlains
Will I with wine and waffle to convince,
That memory, the warder of the brain,
Shall be a fume. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
MEN, the plural of *man*.
Wits live obscurely men know not how; or die obscurely men mark not when. *Ascham.*
For men, there are to be considered the valour and number: the old observation is not untrue, that the Spaniards valour lieth in the eye of the looker-on; but the English valour lieth about the soldiers heart. *Bacon's War with Spain.*
He thought fit that the king's affairs should entirely be conducted by the soldiers and men of war. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
MEN-FLASER. *n. f.* [*men and plasfer*.] One too careful to please others.
Servants be obedient to them that are your masters: not with eye-service, as men-plasfers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. *Eph. vi. 6.*
To MENACE. *v. a.* [*menace*, Fr.] To threaten; to threat.
Who ever knew the heavens menace so?
Your eyes do menace me: why look you pale?
Who sent you hither?
My master knows not but I am gone hence,
And fearfully did menace me with death,
If I did stay to look on his intents. *Shakespeare.*
From this league
Peep'd harms that menace'd him. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*
What should he do? 'Twas death to go away,
And the god menace'd if he dar'd to stay. *Dryden's Fables.*
MENACE. *n. f.* [*menace*, Fr. from the verb.] Threat.
He that would not believe the menace of God at first, it may be doubted whether, before an ocular example, he believed the curse at last. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i.*
The Trojans view the dusky cloud from far,
And the dark menace of the distant war. *Dryden's Eneis.*
MENACE. *n. f.* [*menaceur*, Fr. from *menace*.] A threatener; one that threatens.
Hence menace! nor tempt me into rage:
This roof protects thy rashness. But begone! *Philips.*
MENAGE. *n. f.* [French.] A collection of animals.
I saw here the largest menage that I met with any-where. *Addison on Italy.*
MENAGOCUE. *n. f.* [*μῆνες* and *ἀγῶς*.] A medicine that promotes the flux of the menses.
To MEND. *v. a.* [*mendare*, Latin.]
1. To repair from breach or decay.
They gave the money to the workmen to repair and mend the house. *2 Chron. xxxiv. 10.*
2. To correct; to alter for the better.
The best service they could do to the state, was to mend the lives and manners of the persons who composed it. *Temple's Miscel.*
You need not despair, by the assistance of his growing reason, to master his timorousness, and mend the weakness of his constitution. *Locke on Education.*
Though in some lands the grass is but short, yet it mends garden herbs and fruit. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
Their opinion of Wood, and his project, is not mended. *Swift.*
3. To help; to advance.
Whatever is new is unlooked for; and ever it mends some, and impairs others: and he that is helped takes it for a fortune, and he that is hurt for a wrong. *Bacon.*
If, to avoid succession in eternal existence, they recur to the punctum stans of the schools, they will thereby very little mend the matter, or help us to a more positive idea of infinite duration. *Locke.*
4. To improve; to increase.
Death comes not at call; justice divine
Mends not her slowest pace, for pray'r, or cries. *Milton.*
When upon the sands the traveller,
Sees the high sea come rolling from afar,
The land grow short, he mends his weary pace,
While death behind him covers all the place. *Dryden.*
As terror had increas'd his feet with wings,
To MEND. *v. x.* To grow better; to advance in any good; to be changed for the better.

MEN

- Name a new play and he's the poet's friend;
Nay, show'd his faults—but when wou'd poets mend?
Pope's Essay on Criticism.
MENDABLE. *adj.* [from *mend*.] Capable of being mended. A low word.
MENDACITY. *n. f.* [from *mendax*, Latin.] Falsehood.
In this delivery there were additional mendacities; for the commandment forbid not to touch the fruit, and positively said, Ye shall surely die; but she, extenuating, replied, Left ye die. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i.*
MENDER. *n. f.* [from *mend*.] One who makes any change for the better.
What trade art thou? A trade that I may use with a safe conscience; a mender of bad foals. *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*
MENDICANT. *adj.* [*mendicans*, Latin.] Begging; poor to a state of beggary.
Be not righteous over-much, is applicable to those who, out of an excess of zeal, practise mortifications, whereby they macerate their bodies; or to those who voluntarily reduce themselves to a poor, and perhaps mendicant, state. *Fiddes's Sermons.*
MENDICANT. *n. f.* [*mendicant*, Fr.] A beggar; one of some begging fraternity in the Romish church.
To MENDICATE. *v. a.* [*mendico*, Lat. *mendier*, Fr.] To beg; to ask alms.
MENDICITY. *n. f.* [*mendicitas*, Lat. *mendicité*, Fr.] The life of a beggar.
MENDS for amends.
Let her be as she is: If she be fair, 'tis the better for her; and if she be not, she has the mends in her own hands. *Shakespeare.*
MENIAL. *adj.* [from *many* or *many*; *meni*, Saxon, or *mesnie*, old French.]
1. Belonging to the retinue, or train of servants.
Two menial dogs before their master press'd;
Thus clad, and guarded thus, he seeks his kingly guest. *Dryden's Eneis.*
2. Swift seems not to have known the meaning of this word.
The women attendants perform only the most menial offices. *Gulliver's Travels.*
MENIAL. *n. f.* One of the train of servants.
MENINGES. *n. f.* [*meninges*, Fr.] The meninges are the two membranes that envelope the brain, which are called the pia mater and dura mater; the latter being the exterior involucre, is, from its thickness, so denominated. *Ditt.*
The brain being exposed to the air groweth fluid, and is thrust forth by the contraction of the meninges. *Wijeman.*
MENOLOGY. *n. f.* [*μηνολόγιον*; *menologe*, French.] A register of months.
In the Roman martyrology we find, at one time, many thousand martyrs destroyed by Dioclesian: the menology saith they were twenty thousand. *Stillingfleet.*
MENOW. *n. f.* commonly *minnow*. A fish. *Ainsl.*
MENSA. *adj.* [*mensalis*, Lat.] Belonging to the table; transacted at table. A word yet scarcely naturalized.
Conversation either mental or mensal. *Clarissa.*
MENSTRUAL. *adj.* [*menstrual*, Fr. *menstruus*, Latin.]
1. Monthly; happening once a month; lasting a month.
She turns all her globe to the sun, by moving in her menstrual orb, and enjoys night and day alternately, one day of her's being equal to about fourteen days and nights of ours. *Bentley's Sermons.*
2. Pertaining to a menstruum. [*menstruus*, Fr.]
The distents of the menstrual or strong waters hinder the incorporation, as well as those of the metal. *Bacon.*
MENSTRUOUS. *adj.* [*menstruus*, Lat.] Having the catamenia.
O thou of late beloved,
Now like a menstrual woman art remov'd. *Sandys's Par.*
Many, from being women, have proved men at the first point of their menstrual eruptions. *Brown.*
MENSTRUUM. *n. f.* [This name probably was derived from some notion of the old chemists about the influence of the moon in the preparation of dissolvents.]
All liquors are called menstrua which are used as dissolvents, or to extract the virtues of ingredients by infusion, decoction.
Inquire what is the proper menstruum to dissolve metal, what will touch upon the one and not upon the other, and what several menstrua will dissolve any metal. *Bacon's Physical Rem.*
White metalline bodies must be excepted, which, by reason of their excessive density, seem to reflect almost all the light incident on their first superficies, unless by solution in menstrua they be reduced into very small particles, and then they become transparent. *Newton's Opticks.*
MENSURABILITY. *n. f.* [*mensurabilité*, French.] Capacity of being measured.
MEASURABLE. *adj.* [*mensura*, Latin.] Measurable; that may be measured.
We measure our time by law and not by nature. The solar month is no periodical motion, and not easily measurable, and the months unequal among themselves, and not measured by even weeks or days. *Holder.*